

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheets 1/45 to 45/45, which contain Figs. 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F, 4A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 7, 8, 9A, 9B, 9C, 10A, 10B, 10C, 11, 12A, 12B, 12C, 12D, 12E, 13A, 13B, 13C, 14A, 14B, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 15E, 16A, 16B, 17, 18A, 18B, 18C, 19A, 19B, 20A, 20B, 20C, 20D, 20E, 20F, 20G, 20H, 21A, 21B, and 21C, do not changes the contents of the drawings but are intended to improve the quality and clarity of the drawings.

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REMARKS

The above amendment amends the specification to correct errors and improve clarity. No new matter is added.

The Examiner required correction of the drawings. Applicants request approval to amend Figs. 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F, 4A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 7, 8, 9A, 9B, 9C, 10A, 10B, 10C, 11, 12A, 12B, 12C, 12D, 12E, 13A, 13B, 13C, 14A, 14B, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 15E, 16A, 16B, 17, 18A, 18B, 18C, 19A, 19B, 20A, 20B, 20C, 20D, 20E, 20F, 20G, 20H, 21A, 21B, and 21C to the form shown on the attached replacement sheets of drawings. The changes contained in the replacement sheets improve the quality and clarity of the drawings but are not intended to alter the content of any of the figures.

Claim 1 was objected to for containing an informality. Claim 1 is canceled.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,262,453 (Hshieh). Claim 1 is canceled. With the above amendment, claims 3, 6, 10, and 17 are now dependent from claim 2, which is patentable over Hshieh for reasons given below. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hshieh in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,211,549 (Funaki). Claims 11 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hshieh in view of Applicants' prior art Fig. 3A. Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hshieh in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,689,128 (Hshieh et al.) Claims 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hshieh in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,396,102 (Calafut et al.) In view of the above amendments, claims 4 and 11-16 now depend from claim 2 and are patentable for at least the reasons that claim 2 is patentable as set forth below. Applicants thus request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 2, 5, and 7-9 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected claim but were

indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 5, 7, and 9 have been amended to independent form including the limitations of base claim 1 and any intervening claims. Claim 8 is amended to depend from claim 7. Accordingly, claims 2, 5, and 7-9 no longer depend from rejected claims, and Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 2, 5, and 7-9.

New claims 26 and 27 respectively depend from claims 2 and 5 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims.

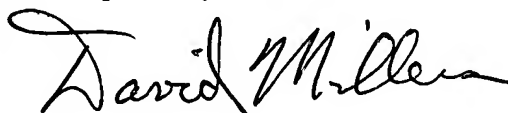
In summary, claims 1-17 were pending in the application. This response cancels claim 1, amends claims 2, 3, 5-9, 10, 12, and 14-17, and adds claims 26 and 27. For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the application including claims 2-17, 26, and 27.

Please contact the undersigned attorney at (408) 927-6700 if there are any questions concerning the application or this document.

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Respectfully submitted,



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